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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK O Applicant(s): GRIFFITH Serial No.: 10/008,543 Group Art Unit: 1731 Filed: 11/8/2001 Examiner: Title: FEATHER PROCESSING METHOD AND PRODUCT Attorney Docket No.: 01-160 Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

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TO 1700 _X_ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or (Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last) under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a: ___ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or (After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first) under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a: ___ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). (Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware.



Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: JUNE 19, 2002

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
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control number. Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Complete if Known INFORMATION DISCLOSURE 10/008,543 **Application Number** 11/8/2001 Filing Date STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor GRIFFITH 1731 Art Unit (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Sheet Ωf Attorney Docket Number 01-160

		 	U.S. PATEN	IT DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code² (if known)			
	Α	US-2002/0057947 A1	05/16/2002	SCHRAVEN	
	В	US-6,312,492	11/06/2001	WILSON	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T6			
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)		Applicant of Cited Document					
	G	JP 09124384 A	05/13/1997	HATAKE, ET AL.					
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